



**APSA**  
THE ASIA & PACIFIC  
SEED ASSOCIATION



**World Vegetable Center**

# Vegetable Breeding Consortium

*Your Research Partner for Success*

APSA members with an interest in **plant breeding for the development of improved vegetable varieties** can now tap the knowledge and expertise of an internationally renowned leader in crop research by joining the **APSA-WorldVeg Vegetable Breeding Consortium**.

The **World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg)**, a non-profit agricultural research and development institute, aims to alleviate poverty and malnutrition in the developing world through increased production and consumption of nutritious, health-promoting vegetables. WorldVeg carries out its mission by forming research partnerships with government, non-governmental, and private sector organizations in developing and developed countries to **conserve and utilize vegetable biodiversity, improve vegetable varieties, and increase vegetable production, marketing and consumption**.



## WHY create a consortium?

As advances in biotechnology and genomics accelerate the pace of vegetable cultivar development, seed companies of all sizes must have a robust understanding of the **latest vegetable breeding research**, the practical skills to **apply new breeding methods**, and access to a **diverse collection of vegetable germplasm** to remain competitive in turbulent markets.

Through the **APSA-WorldVeg Vegetable Breeding Consortium**, participating companies and WorldVeg researchers will have multiple opportunities to discuss and evaluate breeding approaches and discover new avenues to share data and progress, creating a win-win situation. The Consortium will focus on tomato, pepper (chili and sweet), cucurbits (bitter melon and pumpkin/winter squash), and explore traditional vegetables (amaranth and okra) as determined by Consortium Companies interest.

## BENEFITS for Consortium Companies

### Professional interaction at the annual workshop

Come to the source! At the **Annual Workshop**—an event held exclusively for Consortium Companies—WorldVeg researchers will demonstrate new outputs of the Center's vegetable improvement program and discuss results obtained by consortium members who test WorldVeg breeding lines at their field sites using WorldVeg experimental protocols.

During the workshop, consortium members can:

- actively participate in scientific presentations about ongoing WorldVeg research
- review selected field trials of improved breeding material, subject to weather and field conditions

Each workshop will last two consecutive days and be held at WorldVeg headquarters in Taiwan. Dates and format of workshops will be decided annually by WorldVeg. Participants will have the opportunity to hold discussions in groups or individually by appointment with WorldVeg scientists during the day before or after each workshop; the available dates will be announced by WorldVeg.

WorldVeg will offer **free workshop participation** to one representative from each Consortium Company (includes lodging, meals, workshop materials, coffee breaks, and transportation to/from Kaohsiung International Airport or Tainan High Speed Railway Station). All workshop participants must cover their transportation costs to reach the workshop vicinity (the above locations in Kaohsiung or Tainan, Taiwan).

### Early access to improved lines and information

Consortium Companies will be granted a **12-month lead access to newly developed lines** shown at the annual workshop. This lead access will be granted to Consortium Companies relative to all other germplasm requesters who are located in Asia. WorldVeg shall be free to distribute this germplasm at any time outside of Asia. These lines will be immediately available after the workshop.

Publicly available germplasm also will be shown at the workshop and consortium members will have the same access as the general public to these lines.

In addition, Consortium Companies will be able to view demonstration trials and/or preliminary yield trials (PYT), an advanced testing stage from which WorldVeg can advance and select entries for its online seed catalog. Some PYT/demonstration entries selected by WorldVeg breeders may become available by the time of the next workshop, but WorldVeg cannot guarantee when each line will become available.

WorldVeg cannot warrant or guarantee the receipt of seeds by Consortium Companies within a certain timeframe after dispatch or at all due to import laws and requirements in the country where Consortium Companies are located, which WorldVeg has no control over. Consortium Companies shall advise WorldVeg in advance regarding specific requirements for importation of seeds into its territory. Both DSIR and Non-DSIR (Department of Scientific Industrial Research) accredited companies in India are responsible for all seed importation requirements and WorldVeg will not provide any services related to seed importation into India.

Consortium Companies may have early access to screening protocols or other kinds of scientific information developed at WorldVeg, provided the sharing of such information does not conflict with existing agreements or policies of WorldVeg.



### Updates on breeding progress

Consortium Companies will receive a **newsletter** highlighting the latest developments of WorldVeg breeding efforts once a year, approximately six months after the workshop. Other news and information of potential interest to members will be sent throughout the year. Expect exposure to new relevant literature about germplasm screening, breeding methods, and WorldVeg breeding lines. You'll also receive a softcopy of the Center's *Annual Report*.

### Seed

Consortium Companies can request as many WorldVeg genebank germplasm accessions, consortium exclusive lines or breeding lines from the WorldVeg online seed catalog as they want; however, only the first 10 lines are free of charge.

If companies request more than 10 lines, each additional line will be charged processing and shipping fees (US\$30 for each additional

genebank accession; US\$50 for each additional breeding line). No matter how many lines are requested, the first shipping cost will be covered by WorldVeg.

### Participate in bilateral/multilateral projects

Consortium Companies are eligible to develop and participate in bilateral and/or multilateral **collaborative projects** with WorldVeg, subject to additional collaboration costs paid by Consortium Companies to WorldVeg. These projects will be made available to Consortium Companies to participate. Opportunities to participate in selected collaborative projects will be promoted by APSA to all its members from time to time.

### Training

Staff from Consortium Companies receive a **20% discount on tuition** for WorldVeg-offered training. This benefit extends to all employees of a Consortium Company.

## It's a partnership

The APSA-WorldVeg Vegetable Breeding Consortium is a partnership and WorldVeg greatly values key information from Consortium Companies to make its breeding programs more relevant to growers. Consortium Companies are expected to provide:

- **Regular feedback from evaluation trials of improved breeding lines.** WorldVeg scientists will specify the traits to be monitored and provide experimental protocols.
- **Annual report on varieties sold** that have WorldVeg germplasm in their pedigree, the WorldVeg-developed traits these varieties harbor, and the quantity of seed sold (in metric tons per variety per year). Consortium Companies are asked to enter data annually. The aggregated results from analyzing these data will be used in WorldVeg's efforts to raise funds from donors. Seed companies will not be asked to reveal the pedigree of their varieties, and all data will be kept strictly confidential.

## Join the APSA-WorldVeg Vegetable Breeding Consortium!

Ready to take your company to the next level? Join the **APSA-WorldVeg Vegetable Breeding Consortium** and discover how exposure to the latest research and closer contact with international breeders and scientists will change the way you do breeding and business.

### Fees

- Medium/large companies (more than 100 employees): US\$6900.00 per annum
- Small/start-up companies (less than 100 employees): US\$2900.00 per annum

Consortium fees are non-refundable. The Consortium term is from January 1 to December 31.

Consortium membership is open to all APSA members in good standing. APSA members may join any time during the year but must pay the entire annual fee for that term.



## To join, please contact the APSA Secretariat:

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